The past is no excuse

(continued from page 4) for "affirmative" action programs which are little more than the codified endorsement of reverse discrimination. Logically, they are oppositional and efforts hardy be held responsible for the injustices of the post-Reconstruction era.

It is also important here to point out that the central issue in describing reverse discrimination is not whether these programs are not the lowering of educational standards, nor the damaging of people's incentives, but rather the denial of a job to a qualified candidate simply because he is not a member of a minority group. The very light is strikingly clear that the inevitable outcome of these effects being plans which are unfounded and immoral as reverse discrimination against minorities. Important, the purpose of fighting discrimination through "affirmative" action programs are purely promoting discrimination of a different sort. It is undeniably self-serving to uphold the injustices of discrimination while favoring programs which discriminate against people on bases other than job-related qualifications. The idea that Replacing discrimination with reverse discrimination will not reverse the scales of justice forever swing obliviously follow those who create only a more serious one. It is folly to fill one hole by digging another.

Mr. Strachers refers to an earlier letter opposing these programs written by freshman Tom Fantacone and asks him for his response. He is right. I do not pretend to have the evidential support of "many whites today find having an African-American superior on the job abhorrent and will deliberately scheme his demise," and such overinclusive statements as the "African-American with the most outstanding credentials would be passed over in favor of some inept or less-qualified white person simply to be able to make the deduction that Mr. Fantcone must be a "racially" offensive. Emotional, indigent, illegitimate, irrational, and reprehensible, the underlying assumption that the "African-American with the most qualifications" should be hired over someone who may not qualify because they are a member of such a non-minority, probably over-represented. I am a classic stereotype that I, for one, doesn't increase the number of black Americans in particular, about the "lesser qualified of two candidates solely because (she is) or is not a member of a minority. I do not pretend to know all the details of a perfect solution, but I believe that the "affirmative" action plans, which Mr. Fantcone insightfully characterizes as "inherently unjust," are the answer. Therefore I think that a proper cross-section of blacks in this country were taken, taking into account incomes, skills, and educational background necessary to qualify as individual to be a professional, or even want to be one, that the proposition of such people will be significantly smaller than for other groups more heavily represented in the professions. This may well be evidence of the type of "unemployment, or job opportunity" by this group. But more importantly, it may be an indication that it will be difficult to hire qualified people to carry out the under-representation problem. Professionals are made, not born. It must be remembered that all minorities are under-represented, perhaps, some are probably over-represented. I am not making in the professional ranks, following patterns of success, not unlike that of over-represented minorities. In fact, the vast majority of people in this country will ever hope to make. It really doesn't matter whether people think that my eyes look funny, or associate me with absurd stereotypes. In the end, they can't ignore me, my skills, or my income. I will not pretend that success does not exist. But it is no longer the major problem in the representation of one. If anything, a qualified minority or woman really has it made now. The problem is coming up with a way to make the decision, and put in the work to succeed.

Arthur Hu G

Ethnic centrism is prejudice

If all men are equal (yes, that includes women), to me it does not make any difference at all. If that were true, there would be no need for tests, admis-

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tions. Equality to me means that each person should be judged solely and strictly on the basis of his merits, and his merits only, without prejudice of any kind after all.

In our battle against dis-


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(continued from page 4)

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In our battle against discrimination, then, we must not oblivious follow those who would have us embark on an endless senseless ride, in which scales of justice forever swing back and forth between discrimination and reverse discrimination. Rather, we must strive for true equality of opportunity by balancing those scales. To achieve this ideal, we must first devise and implement a rational, systematic, and practical plan aimed at reducing real discrimination. Such a plan would, of course, provide for the punish-

ment of those who are unfair and discriminatory practices, but would not require employers to hire the lesser qualified of two candidates solely because (she is) or is not a member of a minority. I do not pretend to know all the details of a perfect solution, but I believe that the "affirmative" action plans, which Mr. Fantcone insightfully characterizes as "inherently unjust," are the answer. Therefore I think that a proper cross-section of blacks in this country were taken, taking into account incomes, skills, and educational background necessary to qualify as individual to be a professional, or even want to be one, that the proposition of such people will be significantly smaller than for other groups more heavily represented in the professions. This may well be evidence of the type of "unemployment, or job opportunity" by this group. But more importantly, it may be an indication that it will be difficult to hire qualified people to carry out the under-representation problem. Professionals are made, not born. It must be remembered that all minorities are under-represented, perhaps, some are probably over-represented. I am not making in the professional ranks, following patterns of success, not unlike that of over-represented minorities. In fact, the vast majority of people in this country will ever hope to make. It really doesn't matter whether people think that my eyes look funny, or associate me with absurd stereotypes. In the end, they can't ignore me, my skills, or my income. I will not pretend that success does not exist. But it is no longer the major problem in the representation of one. If anything, a qualified minority or woman really has it made now. The problem is coming up with a way to make the decision, and put in the work to succeed.

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